## Message Text

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DEPT PLEASE PASS AGRICULTURE/FAS.

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR ECON PL

SUBJ: JAROSZEWICZ SPEECH TO THE SEJM (PARLIAMENT)

REF: WARSAW 6287

- 1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ON JULY 20, PRIME MINISTER PIOTR JAROSZEWICZ SPOKE BEFORE THE SEJM ON THE RESULTS OF THE 1977 ECONOMIC PLAN AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN FOR 1979. THE ADDRESS WAS OPTIMISTIC DESPITE LENGHTY DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS IN AGRICULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE. END SUMMARY.
- 2. PRIME MINISTER JAROSZEWICZ NOTED THAT THE NATIONAL INCOME IN 1977 HAD INCREASED 5 PERCENT. THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR HAD FULFILLED MOST OF ITS TARGETS AND EVEN AGRICULTURE HAD SHOWN A 1 PERCENT GAIN OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S PREFORMANCE. THE VALUE OF CONSUMER GOODS HAD INCREASED BY 13 PERCENT DURING 1977. DURING THE YEARS 1976 AND 1977 (COMBINED), REAL PER CAPTIA INCOME INCREASED BY 12.5 PERCENT, COMPARED WITH A PLANNED INCREASE OF 8.7 PERCENT.

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3. AGRICULTURE FELL BY ABOUT 20 BILLION ZLOTYS SHORT OF PLANNED PRODUCTION. THGOETHER WITH THE LOSSES IN THE FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY, THERE WAS A TOTAL LOSS IN THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OF 50 BILLION ZLOTYS. POLAND IMPORTED 140 THOUSAND TONS OF MEAT AND FAT, AND 9 MILLION TONS OF GRAIN AND ANIMALE FEED AT A COST OF 1.15 BILLION DOLLARS. ON BALANCE THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR HAS A DEFICIT OF 700

MILLION DOLLARS. POLAND PLANS TO INCREASE DOMESTIC AGRI-CULTURE PRODUCTION BY RAISING THE PROCUREMENT PRICES FOR FARM PRODUCE, BY SUPPLYING MORE FERTILIZERS, AND BY PROVIDING MORE RESOURCES FOR MECHANIZING FARM PRODUCTION.

- 4. THE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT IGNORE WESTERN PROTECTIONISM IN HIS LIST OF POLAND'S PROBLEMS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE. CUSTOMS DUTIES ON POISH EXPORTS, HE CLAIMED, AMOUNTED TO 210 MILLION DOLLARS. POLAND HAS ALSO FACED A DETERIORATION IN ITS TERMS OF TRADE WITH THE WEST WHCIH JAROSZEWICZ ESTIMATED TO HAVE COST 330 MILLION DOLLARS IN THE 1976-1978 PERIOD.
- 5. JAROSZEWICZ MENTIONED ONLY BRIEFLY POLAND'S EFFORTS WITHIN THE COUNCIL FOR MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (CEMA). COOPERATION WITHIN THE EASTERN BLOC HAS PROVEN EFFECTIVE IN SOLVING ITS ENERGY NEEDS, BUT POLAND STILL HAS A SHORTAGE OF ENERGY AND EVEN GREATER RATIONING EFFORTS WILL BE NECESSARY IN THE FUTURE.
- 6. IN CONTRAST TO PAST SPEECHES ON THE ECONOMY, JAROSZEWICZ DID NOT DWELL ON THE STRATEGY OF REDUCING IMPORTS AS A SOLUTION TO THE DEFICIT PROBLEM BUT RATHER ENCOURAGED GREATER INCREASES IN POLAND'S EXPORTS TO THE WEST. THE GENERAL TONE OF THE SPEECH WAS POSITIVE. EVEN WHILE TALKING ABOUT REDUCION AND REALLOCATION OF INVESTMENT DUE TO HARD CURRENCY CONFIDENTIAL

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SHORTAGES, HE EMPHASIZED THAT BASIC SOCIAL GOALS HAVE BEEN FOSTERED AND DEVELOPED FASTER THAN PLANNED. THE PRIME MINISTER DEFENDED THE "ECONOMIC NAEUVERES" OF THE REGIME AND POINTED OUT THAT THE ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF THE NATION HAS BEEN GREATLY AUGMENTED BY THE GIEREK POLICY. HE SUMMARIZED THE IMPACT OF THIS STRATEGY BY NOTING THAT IN THE PAST SEVEN YEARS NATIONAL INCOME HAD INCREASED BY 80 PERCENT, THE SALE OF PRODCUTS AND SERVICES OF THE SOCIALIZED SECTOR HAD DOUBLED AND LASTLY, "DESPUTE FOUR SUCCESSIVE UNFAVORABLE YEARS, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION HAS INCREASED BY ABOUT 18 PERCENT." (COMMENT: IT WAS NOT MENTIONED WHETHER THIS IS IN CONSTANT PRICES OR IN CURRENT ZLOTY TERMS, I.E., INFLATED CURRENCY. END COMMENT.)

7. ALTHOUGH THIS SPEECH WAS TOUTED AS AN IMPORTANT ECONOMIC ADDRESS, JAROSZEWICZ DID NOT UNVIEL ANYTHING NEW AND GAVE NO HINT OF CHANGE IN THE GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC POLICIES. THS SPEECH WAS GIVEN TO REASSURE THE FAITHFUL THAT ALL WAS WELL AND PROCEEDING ACCORDING TO PLAN. BRADSHAW

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